

Three Steps to Lead Safe Renovation

Step 1: Isolate the work area so dust will not escape

Step 2: Use techniques that will minimize dust creation

Step 3: Clean up really, really well



Lead-Safe Work Practices

The following techniques should be employed to ensure that work practices are safe:

- ☉ Wet methods to scrape and sand by misting surfaces before and during scraping and sanding.
- ☉ Mist before drilling and cutting to reduce dust creation and keep dust from becoming airborne and spreading beyond the work area. An alternative while working with electrical tools is the use of foam.
- ☉ Scoring paint before separating components helps prevent paint from chipping when a paint seal is broken.
- ☉ Use a heat gun set below 1,100°.
- ☉ Prying and pulling apart components and pulling nails creates less dust and fewer paint chips than pounding out components.
- ☉ If power tools that sand or grind are used, equip them with a HEPA vacuum attachment.

More information at: www.in.gov/isdh/19155.htm



Prohibited Work Practices

The following techniques are very dangerous when applied to lead-based paint and prohibited by Indiana law:

- Ø **Open flame burning or torching.**
- Ø **Machine sanding or grinding** without high efficiency particulate air local exhaust control.
- Ø **Abrasive blasting or sandblasting** without high efficiency particulate air local exhaust control.
- Ø Using a **heat gun** that operates above 1100°F or chars the paint.
- Ø **Dry scraping**, except in conjunction with a heat gun or within one foot of an electrical outlet.
- Ø **Dry sanding**, except within one foot of an electrical outlet.
- Ø Using a **volatile stripper** that is a hazardous chemical under 29 CFR 1910.1200 in a space that is not ventilated by the circulation of outside air,
- Ø **Exterior Paint:** A person disturbing painted exterior surfaces may not allow visible paint chips or painted debris to remain on the soil, pavement, or other exterior horizontal surface for more than forty-eight hours after the surface activities are complete.

More information on lead safe maintenance activities, can be found in this helpful pamphlet available at www.hud.gov/offices/lead/training/LBPguide.pdf



Lead Poisoning Prevention in Indiana



Safe Maintenance, Renovation and Lead Abatement A Guide for Homeowners and Do-It-Yourselfers

If your house was built before 1978, it may have lead-based paint. Whether you are doing the work yourself or hiring a contractor, it **can** be done safely. Here are some things you should know:

- ◆ In homes and child-occupied facilities built before 1960, Indiana law:
 - ⇒ Presumes that paint is lead-based paint;
 - ⇒ Prohibits the use of dangerous work practices such as dry-sanding, dry-scraping or burning paint unless special conditions apply;
 - ⇒ Requires exterior cleanup of visible paint chips or painted debris that within 48 hours after work is complete; and
 - ⇒ Imposes criminal penalties for violating these rules.
- ◆ If the purpose of your home improvement project is to eliminate lead-based paint permanently, it is called “abatement” and only a licensed lead abatement contractor can do the work.
- ◆ Any renovation or maintenance work that disturbs paint must be done using **lead safe work practices** to be completed safely. Most contractors have not been trained in lead safe work practices.
- ◆ The only way to know whether lead dust hazards remain after work is done is through a lead clearance examination where dust samples are checked for lead.
- ◆ EPA requires contractors who will disturb more than 2 square feet of interior paint in pre-1978 homes to provide written notice to owners and tenants of the potential for lead hazards.
- ◆ Your local health department and the Indiana State Department of Health can help!

Contact ISDH’s Lead Hotline 1-800-433-0746

Lead Primer

What are the dangers of lead poisoning? Severe childhood lead poisoning is uncommon in Indiana, but thousands of Hoosier children are poisoned by lower levels of lead that permanently damage the brain. This damage includes lowered IQ levels, a greater chance of learning disabilities and attention deficit disorders, and a tendency towards violent behavior. Indiana requires intervention by the local health department to protect children six years or younger when a child has more than 10 micrograms of lead in a deciliter of blood.

How can I tell if a person is lead poisoned? Only a blood test performed by a health professional will tell you. Since lead leaves the blood over time, you cannot easily tell whether a person was lead poisoned in the past.

Why focus on children six or younger? Because their bodies are still growing, children are at the highest risk. The body has difficulty telling the difference between lead and calcium. Lead in blood can get into the developing brain and permanently damage it. Pregnant woman can pass lead to a fetus. Adults and children over six can also be lead poisoned but it takes higher levels. Children under seven are the most vulnerable group.

How many children are lead poisoned in Indiana? Because testing is not required for all children, no one knows. National averages suggest that 1 in 100 children are lead poisoned. The state recommends that all children living or playing in property built before 1978 be tested. Race and income-levels are also factors. All children eligible for Medicaid must be tested.

How do they get lead poisoned? Lead paint dust, lead paint chips, and lead in soil are the primary sources of lead poisoning. Children playing on the floor get lead dust or contaminated soil on their toys, blankets, clothes and on their hands that they ingest. The lead dust may be invisible, and a tiny amount of lead dust can poison a child.

Where does the lead come from? Lead primarily comes from deteriorated lead-based paint, inside or outside the home. Lead-based paint on the exterior of the home may have contaminated the soil over the years. Inside, windows and doors are the most likely places to find lead-based paint because the paint was durable. Dust can be found everywhere. The only way to know for sure is to have it checked by a risk assessor or inspector licensed by the Indiana State Department of Health.

Why 1978 and 1960? The use of lead-based paint on residential property was prohibited after January 1, 1978. Indiana law presumes paint in a home or child-occupied facility built before 1960 is lead-based paint.

Categories of Lead Work

Lead Abatement is the permanent elimination of lead-based paint from a home or building. **Lead Remediation** uses “interim control techniques” to eliminate the lead-based paint hazards, but does not permanently eliminate the paint. Interim control techniques are designed to last up to 20 years.

Key References

- Indiana Regulations: 326 IAC 23 (See www.in.gov/legislative/iac/T03260/A00230.PDF?)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Regulations: 40 CFR Part 765 (www.epa.gov/lead/)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Renovation, Repair, and Painting Rule (www.epa.gov/lead/pubs/renovation.htm)
- U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development Regulations: 24 CFR Part 35 (www.hud.gov/offices/lead/index.cfm)
- U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration: 29 CFR 1926.62 (www.osha.gov/SLTC/lead/index.html)
- Environmental specialists on staff at state and local health departments provide excellent information on issues pertaining to lead poisoning.

Key Contacts

- IN State Department of Health: www.in.gov/isdh/19124.htm and 317-233-1250.
- IN Licensing Agency: www.in.gov/pla/
- Lead-Safe Indiana Task Force and Improving Kids' Environment: www.ikecoalition.org or 317-902-3610
- National Lead Information Center: (800) 424-LEAD (5323)
- ISDH Lead Hotline: 800-433-0746

This document has been prepared by Janet McCabe and Lauren Stanisc of Improving Kids' Environment pursuant to a grant from the Indiana State Department of Health. IKE takes full responsibility for the materials presented. Contact IKE at www.ikecoalition.org or 317-902-3610 for more information.



What is Your Project & Who Can do It?

